

Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

FISK UNIVERSITY, founded in 1866, by the American Missionary Association (Congregational), was cradled in the barracks abandoned by the Federal Army. It received its name from Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, who was stationed at Nashville to settle the affairs of the government.

At the beginning of the enterprise, Chaplain Cravath, who was president of Fisk for more than twenty-five years, announced that the institution would afford to the colored youth all the education they would show themselves able to acquire and make use of.



REV. JAMES G. MERRILL, D.D.
President, 1901-1908

In 1871 Fort Gillam, having a commanding position and a tract of thirty-five acres of land, affording an ideal campus, was chosen for a permanent site of the University.

The problem of buildings was a serious one. Prof. George E. White solved it by sending out a company of the students, whom he called "the Jubilee Singers." They sang in the northern states, in the British Isles and on the continent of Europe. They were absent nearly five years, and brought back to Fisk \$150,000, with which Jubilee Hall was built, and the balance due on the campus was paid. In addition, the institution gained an international reputation.

Forward, with an Even, Constant Growth

The school has moved forward with an even, constant growth. There are nine substantial and commodious buildings, and the value of the campus buildings and apparatus is in excess of \$450,000.

In 1908 the enrollment showed 42 teachers and 571 students, of whom 300 were in the boarding department and 13 students in the theological department. The students are of all grades, from the primary school which is utilized for "a practice school" for the normal department, to the college department which last year enrolled 125.

During its existence Fisk has sent out nearly six hundred and fifty graduates from its college and normal departments. It keeps a close record of its alumni, and is able to show that to a

very large extent they are following lines along which they have been educated. The curriculum of Fisk is such that the graduates from its college department are admitted as post-graduates at Harvard and Yale without examination, and in several instances those who have gone from this school have led their classes.

The Chief Aim at Fisk

The chief aim at Fisk, however, is not scholarship. Manhood is its goal, and Christian men and women are its product. It is the purpose of the faculty to send forth no one who is unworthy of confidence or incapacitated to be a leader of those who have never had the opportunities afforded at Fisk.

The teaching force of the institution has, in the past, been almost entirely from the North. Graduates from Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Dartmouth, Amherst, Oberlin, Mt. Holyoke, Smith, Syracuse, Wesleyan and Wellesley have been members of the faculty. They have almost without exception been actuated by missionary and philanthropic spirit, which has held subordinate the matter of emolument or the securing of renown. To shape character has been a higher aim than to



CHASE HALL, FISK UNIVERSITY, NASHVILLE, TENN.

A building for the Department of Applied Science, erected with the aid of the General Education Board and friends of the school.